

SYN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

April 26, 2005

Due to the loss of the residency program in radiology at King/Drew Medical Center, the Department of Health Services has provided radiology coverage through a contract with Reliable Health Care Services, a physician registry service. Documents made public yesterday show that Reliable routinely billed the Department for more than 100 hours a week that were purportedly worked by a single physician. In many instances, this physician billed for more than 150 hours per week – all at an hourly rate of \$225. Since March, 2004 the Department has paid Reliable \$1.3 million for the services of this individual doctor.

The Department indicates that the rate structure in Reliable's contract permitted either a block payment of \$1800 for an eight-hour day, or payment at an hourly rate of \$225; but that payment of \$225 an hour for 24 hours straight is "clearly contrary to the rate structure provided under the agreement." The Department indicates also that the physician in question had a room to sleep in between calls. They believe he was paid at the \$225 rate not only while he worked, but also while "on call." The Department indicates that "the intent of the contract was not to compensate a physician while he slept."

MOTION

BURKE \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the County Counsel be directed to review the facts surrounding the contract for radiology services with Reliable Health Care Services, and if appropriate to take any legal action necessary to recoup County funds that may have been inappropriately disbursed.

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